



Washington State Department of Ecology

Hanford Budget and Impacts to Cleanup Priorities



Ecology Concerns - 2007-08 Hanford Funding

The Washington State Department of Ecology is concerned about the fiscal-year 2007 and 2008 budget proposal for funding Hanford cleanup. We are not convinced DOE has aggressively pursued or requested adequate funding to meet its long-term schedule and commitments for cleanup at Hanford.

- The greatest single health and safety risk at Hanford is 53 million gallons of radioactive waste – much of it sitting in obsolete, leak-prone tanks that are decades past their design life.
- The radioactive waste must be removed from these tanks without delay. To do this we must complete the Waste Treatment Plant, empty the tanks, and convert the waste into stable glass.
- Ecology expects consistency and commitment from the Department of Energy -- to comply with the schedules in the Tri-Party Agreement and to continue cleanup progress and momentum at Hanford.



Ecology Concerns - 2007-08 DOE-RL Funding

Impacts of Constrained Funding Profile

Ecology is concerned that funding constraints and flat funding ultimately result in less cleanup.

- Flat funding (with "hotel" costs, inflation, escalation, etc. included) means less actual dollars for cleanup
- Ecology expects actual cleanup progress on the Central Plateau (e.g., digging up sites, treating groundwater)
- Ecology expects DOE-RL to complete the Columbia River component of the River Corridor Baseline Assessment
- Ecology expects DOE-RL to request funds to meet M-91 TPA milestones (Post 1970 TRU Retrieval)



Ecology Concerns - 2007-08 DOE-RL Funding

Constrained Funding Profile *(Cont.)*

- With 3,500 to 7,000 wells to be decommissioned by 2012, Ecology does not agree that well decommissioning should be an "over-target" activity
- Ecology supports inclusion of Hanford Natural Resource Trustee Council risk assessment funding in the baseline

Safeguards and Security

We reiterate our concern over cleanup dollars going to missions at Hanford not directly related to cleanup.

- DOE should move plutonium off-site to meet the TPA schedule for PFP cleanup



Ecology Concerns - 2007-08 DOE-ORP Funding

Waste Treatment Plant

Ecology is very concerned over current projections to delay WTP project milestones

- Ecology has not agreed to change WTP hot commissioning (2011)

Supplemental Treatment

Ecology is concerned that funding to conduct the Bulk Vitrification System Demonstration is cut in FY 07 and 08

- Ecology disagrees with the decision to stop funding prior to treating S-109 waste and evaluation of the adequacy of bulk vitrification as a viable supplemental technology



Ecology Concerns - 2007-08 DOE-ORP Funding

Tank Farm Operations

Ecology is very concerned over current projections to delay Tank Farm retrieval schedules

- Ecology has not agreed to change milestones for single-shell tank (SST) tank farm closure (2024)
- Ecology does not support slowing tank retrievals to match delays in operation of the WTP
- Ecology supports double-shell tank (DST) space-saving measures and operation of the 242-A Evaporator
- Ecology will support a demonstration closure and does not agree that resolution of Section 3116 should delay closure